

# **RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS**

Affiliated to Federation of Midland Fly Fishers (Anglia) & A.C.A.

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## **SEPTEMBER /OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 1999**

Dear Member

### **Fishing Report**

At last the fish have arrived back in the margins and with a vengeance. Some tremendous Rainbows are being caught with a good smattering of 4 - 5lb fish. Even better news that they may now be found elsewhere than in the main basin. There are still a lot of fish here but they seem to be spreading out around the lake. All the fish are now in silver condition. Stocking ceased last week . So we can now look forward to the best bank fishing of the season. The hot September will no doubt have delayed arrival of the Browns in the margins as happened last year when they turned up in November! However some are starting to leap about off the Dam.

The hoped for daddy longlegs carnage finished up as a damp squib with only the occasional fish found to be feeding on them. The migration was soon brought to halt by the excessive rainfall which sealed up the clay soils and terminated the hatch - as per last year. However, you can still catch with the appropriate imitation. either fished wet or dry.

The present diet seems to be Sticklebacks, Perch Fry, Corixa, Ostracods (daphnia sized free swimming mussels), Daphnia, snails of all sizes and of course Bloodworms

Fish have been caught on all manner of patterns. Buzzers were still catching until recently. Well known angler Tommy Graham has fished the buzzer right through until now and has had a great time. He recently took a perfect 7lb 2oz Rainbow from the Sykes end of the Dam but on a tiny tadpole.

The Dam, Fantasy and Sykes have been very productive areas. Like the rest of the lake this has been good at times. This current trend seems to be one day on three days off! Remember Monday 26th September! However some very good fish have been caught from the Shallows in the North Arm including a pair of 5lb Rainbows by Dick Stephen on a tiny olive squirrel fur nymph. These fish, here and elsewhere, have been grazing almost exclusively on snails. Carrot Creek and East Creek have also produced some good fish.

Some of the fish appear to be quite "coloured". This may be due to spending much time in weed beds grazing on snails, Corixa and Fry. The larger fish have in many cases not disputed too hard for their freedom. And sometimes they have been landed within a couple of minutes

You quite clearly don't have to fish floating fry for these back end fish. The secretary recently taking a 6lb 3oz specimen from Whitwell creek. This fish which contained numerous two to three inch perch fry but chose to take a size 12 "JW" palmer skimmed across the surface.

A recent incident in Carrot Creek highlighted the need for adequate tackle to deal with these back end monsters. A day ticket holder from Mansfield had his landing net handle snapped while attempting to lift what was probably a double figure rainbow. He entered the water in an vain attempt to recover the lost prize!

We'll say it again! Get your tackle ready for the "Last of the Summer Wine. We always get ready for the "off" in April ; now it is even more essential that you back up your reels, check that your flies are tied on the strongest hooks money can buy. E.g. the Drennan Carbon Nymph in long shanks and the Drennan Wet Fly supreme - normal shank. If there is a better nylon for the job than the "Fulling Mill" fluorocarbon on the black spool, the secretary has yet to find it. 6lb upwards at this time of year with a minimum of 8lb with the larger lures and floating fry.

Too many people get broken by takes from fish close in. So if you are fishing at close quarters with smaller patterns scale down your tackle to a 5 or 6 weight Rod but with the larger lure and stronger nylon then by all means a 7 or 8 weight Rod. Remember, however that you cannot make a size 2 or four hook stick on a 5 weight rod!

Many anglers were "spooled" (i.e. ran out of backing" in 1998. Don't let it happen to you. It is possible that you only had one example of the pattern that you left in that last fish. If you think you have a winner tie half a dozen examples so that you can also give on to your chums if it proves a killer.

### **Fishing Report(Contd.)**

While on the subject of being spooled, be certain to ensure that your backing is securely joined to your fly line. In a recent disaster Andy Mosley hooked a large rainbow which he lost as his fly line became detached from the backing during the first ear splitting run

The water temp has dropped now aided by pumping from the source rivers, input from the feeder streams and frosty nights. These factors are undoubtedly responsible for the improvement in the fishing.

A recent visit to fantasy island revealed a massive migration of Bloodworms out into the lake on an East South Easterly wind. The water appeared pink in colour. This was in part due to what is known as "sulphur bacteria" arising from rotting vegetation around the draw off tower and a plethora of Bloodworms in suspension. The consequent slick ran some 800m out into the lake and attracted thousands of fish to the area. The Secretary was able to photograph three rises at one shot - one photo showing 5 rises. However, as usual, the fish didn't give themselves up. This phenomenon quite often occurs in late Autumn and is the one chance for the recent stockies to put on some weight before Winter.

The best pattern for these proved to be a C-D-C bloodworm tied as a ring above the hook with a tuft of CDC at either end. This keeps the ends of the hook on the surface while keeping the red lava lace - tied in a bow - just "awash". This was evidently just right for them as every fish covered was either caught or hooked and lost. As usual - next day not a fish to be seen! Typical Rutland! The great "leveller". Just when you think you have it "sussed" they do the bunk!

There has been gloomy speculation about the number of fish left in the lake. Well they say that "you cant catch them twice"., I am sorry to say that some of the perpetrators of this rumour would find there were still plenty left if they altered their approach. Try testing apparently dead water with a dry. You might be surprised!

A certain Mr Ogg from Wittering caught his first trout after a ten year lay off. It was an 8lb 10oz Rainbow and was caught from the Normanton bank just West of the Lodge. What a way to make up for lost time! The story goes that he was advised by the shop staff to have a go near the lodge and fish with a Minkie/Black Buzzer combination. No one told him that convention states that the Minkie should be on the point and the nymph on the dropper. He fished them the other way round! The fish may have been attracted to the Minkie but chose to take the buzzer on the point. His 7 year old son eventually netted the fish after many attempts! Ouch!

Some very large fish have been seen, lost and caught at various spots. Best places for crocs seem to be Carrot Creek, East Creek, Whitwell Creek, Sailing Club Bay if you can beat the weed and off the Harbour Wall. Here, on Friday, one gentlemen took four fish for about 26lb on a lead line with a white lure. Best fish was over 8lb. Those biggies on the dam are at present too far out!. Plenty of stockies at the Fantasy End if you fail elsewhere.

There is one giant fish here. It is a Brown of 10lb+ which must have leaped out enough times - sometimes well within range - to make one think he had nothing else to do! He is very coloured and quite entertaining if not prepared to pull. Another career best rainbow has been caught by Rob Waddington "just outside his back door" at Dickenson's. The fish, caught on a Minkie, weighed 7lb 12oz and was his only pull of the evening.

Trevor Ashby has resurrected his bream fishing skills by taking an estimated 8lb specimen on a Peacock & Black Spider from the "Belgrano Bay" at Whitwell

### **Boat Fishing**

In the Anglian Water Loch Style Match at the end of August 68 Anglers caught an incredible 620 fish for an average of 9.28 fish per rod. Some anglers were in by 1100am with their bag limit of 10 with two fish returned. Best bag weighing 25lb 13oz including the best fish of 5lb 4¼oz was taken by RWFF committee member Andy Flitcroft at the top of the South Arm.

The fishing at the beginning of September was very hard from both bank and boat as borne out by the result of the English Disabled National Eliminator when 40 anglers had a struggle to achieve a fish a rod. The hot weather being the main culprit.

The rudder men are still catching a few as indicated by the 8lb 2oz Rainbow taken by Derby angler Des Welch. However the best method seems to be to drift into or along the weed beds for the quality fish. Curly apparently lost a giant rainbow estimated at 10lb plus on a tandem floating fry in Barnsdale. At Manton and Lax Hill there are still fish to be found surface feeding right in the middle of the Arm. other places to try are Carrot Creek, Transformer, and off Barnhill Creek.

### **Pike Fishing.**

This commenced 16th October. The rules have been relaxed and dead sea baits may now be used but lures must not be less than 15cm in length. The cost of the boat is £30 - 00 per day. This weekend a good number of boats went out on Rutland and a fair smattering of twenty pound fish were caught from the middle of both arms. There are some tremendous pike in the lake as we have seen from previously large damaged trout and the capture of a number of specimens during the Summer on fly. The best fish on a fly this year being a monster of 37lb taken from Grafham on a booby. This fish apparently towed the boat some distance before coming to net.

### **Fishing Season Extension - 1999**

Don't forget that, this year your season ticket includes two bonus days i.e. 30th & 31st October. However the National Legal Brown Trout season still ends on October 29th. So they must all be returned after this date.

### **Rutland Weather Call**

For the up to date wind speed and direction you can ring 0640 610206. Cost is 60p per minute but you pay by the second. This is priceless information. The read out takes about 15 seconds. Jolly good value I'd say.

### **Junior News**

#### **Junior Brown Trout - "Fario" Trophy**

Still no takers for the Fario Trophy for the best Brown of the season taken by a Junior member. If you do catch one and don't want to kill it, weigh in the net in front of a witness, return it carefully to the water and then weigh the net. Then verify the accuracy of your scales with those at the Lodge. If there are no takers then the Trophy may well be awarded for some other angling feat by a Junior. So if you think you are eligible then write in or contact the Secretary by phone.

My apologies for the error in the last newsletter when I stated that Matthew Tolliday led the field for the best Rainbow for the Mike Ellis Trophy. In fact Paul Abbott holds this honour with a fish of 5lb 8oz caught in April. My apologies to both Paul and Matthew. However Matthew's success in the Tuesday night boat league has not gone unnoticed.

Charles Bowers has been to Eyebrook and caught a 4lb 8oz Rainbow from a boat at the "Robbo's" End of the Dam. The fish was caught on an orange Fritz. As there was a prize for the best fish on the day he received a Reel & Line for his skills

### **Peregrine International Team Challenge - Rutland 27/28th August 1999**

Well done the Cormorants - all of whom are RWFF members viz. Dave Shipman, Tony Curtis, Dave Doherty & Leon Smith for winning the match against 34 other teams comprising 144 anglers. The team caught 63 fish for 134lb 6oz and walked off with the Trophy and £2,500 - 00 in prize money. The total catch was 1020 fish by 280 rods. Top Rod was Dave Shipman with 24 fish over the two days for 49lb 7oz including time bonus.

### **"The Grainstore Brewery & Anglian Water Rutland Boat/ Bank Individual Challenge" - 30th October 1999**

One & all are invited to enter the above match. Registration starts at 0730. The match will be fished in two sessions. Viz. 0830 - 1230. Then 1400 to 1800.

The cost is £27 - 50 to include permit, Boat Hire, Refreshments and of course beer!

Prizes include a Four Water Season Ticket for the year 2000 and many other exciting prizes.

Further details from the Fishing Lodge on 01780 686441

### **England Team Qualifier Bewl Water**

Congratulations to Dave "Curly" Doherty Andrew Flitcroft Julian Hubbard & Graham Pearson who recently fished at Bewl Water and qualified for next years England Team. Graham also had success at Rutland in the form of an 8lb 10oz Brownie taken from a bay near Manton a sparkler Tube on the Rudder in September

### **Tuesday Night Boat League - Rutland Water**

This years winner was Richard Hearth with 41 points who won a £50 -- 00 tackle voucher. The best fish of the series was a 5lb 9½oz Rainbow by Barry Vaughan. The final match was won by Gordon Bloodworth.

### **Match Results(Enclosed) - Provided by Sean Cutting**

Major Clubs - results and the report on the Autumn Association match Grafham on Saturday 2nd October

Hinckley Shield at Foremark - Well done RWFF for winning the match

Oliver Cup Results and report of both the 1999 fixtures.

RWFF Loch Style Trophy

A lot of work goes into organising the match programme. The club would like to thank Sean for all the time and effort he has put into arranging this years events and hardest of all trying to integrate it all into the overall match programme.

### **RWFF Tackle Auctioneer lands first Salmon**

Jeff Dale has again kindly agreed to be our Auctioneer of Tackle on February 8th 2000

He recently travelled up to Scotland and came up trumps with a 20lb Salmon taken on from the Kercock Beat of the River Tay. It was his first cast after a bit of practice with the Ghillie. It is Jeff's first salmon. It was a silver fresh run fish with a few sea lice still attached and was taken on a yellow belly Devon minnow from a very swollen river. The river was out of order for the rest of the week.

### **Winter Fishing Prospects**

These look good with a fair

head of large fish. Those in doubt about the number of fish left should have been at Fantasy Corner on Friday 15th October! It will be interesting to see where they take up station. They tend not to move around a lot in the colder months. Lets hope for a continuation of what has, compared with last year, been a very benign Autumn.

***N.B. From November 1st fishing is not allowed West of a line drawn from the Transformer Road End across to The Dickensons Road End in the North Arm and in the South Arm, West of line drawn from the Eastern Boundary of the Sailing Club across to the entrance barrier just East of The Daltons Point. Old Hall Point is available. Map enclosed.***

### **The Winter Programme**

The following events are planned

Tuesday December 7th - Forum of "Experts".

This is more in the form of a discussion group. The following have agreed to be grilled. Trevor Ashby "Clevor Trevor" of Sky TV fame, John Maitland, Paul Wild, Graham Pearson and Andy Flitcroft.

Jon Marshall has also agreed to be grilled re the management of the Water. So that's your chance to have your say on what has been, like every season in the fishery's history, a unique one.

Tuesday 11th January - Fly Tying Evening and prize giving - Fishing Lodge - Committee Members will be providing a tasty buffet.

***Please be sure to get all trophies back to the Fishing Lodge or Richard Hearth at Rods & Reels Angling Centre at the South End of Mill Street, Oakham ASAP after the end of the season for engraving prior to presentation on January 11th.***

Tuesday January 25th 2000 - Speaker - Victoria Hall - TBA

Tuesday 1st February 2000- Competition Meeting - Victoria Hall Small Room

Tuesday 8th February 2000- Tackle Auction - Victoria Hall Big Room

Tuesday 22nd February 2000 - TBA - Victoria Hall Small Room

Tuesday 7th March 2000 - Philip White - Victoria Hall Small Room

Tuesday 21st March - Dinner & Speaker Evening - with Taff Price. Not to be missed!

Further details of all these events in subsequent newsletters.

Tight lines for what's left of the season.!

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham      Hon. Secretary.